



**For Immediate Release**

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**LAUMEIER SCULPTURE PARK ANNOUNCES FALL 2021  
EXHIBITION, *Aida Šehović: ŠTO TE NEMA***

**At a Glance**

**WHAT:** A solo exhibition of work by artist Aida Šehović including the archive of *ŠTO TE NEMA*, a public monument to the victims of the Srebrenica genocide, which traveled to 15 cities around the world between 2006 and 2020. The archive of this long running project consists of a collection of more than 8,372 *fiždžani* (small porcelain coffee cups) as well as posters announcing each of the 15 iterations over a decade and a half. In addition, a photo installation from Šehović's related body of work *Family Album*, 2018 will be presented.

**WHO:** Aida Šehović, Laumeier's 2021 Visiting Artist In Residence. Born in Bosnia and Herzegovina, based in New York City.

Laumeier Sculpture Park's Visiting Artist In Residence program is supported in part by a grant from the Vilcek Foundation.

**WHEN:** On view September 25 - December 19, 2021.

**WHERE:** Laumeier Sculpture Park, 12580 Rott Road, St. Louis, MO 63127. Inside the Aronson Fine Arts Center's Whitaker Foundation Gallery.

**WHY:** This exhibition connects to a growing population of first and second generation Bosnians in the St. Louis area, most of whom were displaced as a result of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina (1992-1995). St. Louis has the largest population of Bosnian immigrants in the United States, and this community has had a major impact on the broader fabric of the region's cultural life. The upcoming exhibition addresses broad issues surrounding identity, collective remembrance, trauma and displacement. Šehović's work serves as a learning tool for community organizing, resistance, and healing.

***Detailed release follows***



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## **Laumeier Sculpture Park Explores Remembrance, Connection, and Strength of Community with *Aida Šehović: ŠTO TE NEMA***

**St. Louis, MO** – In the Fall of 2021, Laumeier Sculpture Park will explore themes of collective remembrance, community resilience and healing through its exhibition *Aida Šehović: ŠTO TE NEMA*, on view September 25 - December 19, 2021 in the Aronson Fine Arts Center's Whitaker Foundation Gallery. The exhibition is an archive of Bosnian-born artist Aida Šehović's nomadic monument titled *ŠTO TE NEMA* ("where have you been" in Bosnian) that honors the victims of the Srebrenica genocide, during which more than 8,372 Muslim men and boys were systematically executed. The exhibition at Laumeier will feature a collection of more than 8,372 fildžani (small porcelain coffee cups) donated by Bosnian families from the diaspora, posters from the project, and a photo installation of the related body of work titled *Family Album*, 2018.

"The total number of fildžani roughly corresponds to the growing number of body remains found, identified, and buried to date," says Šehović. "Uniting survivors and everyone else directly or indirectly affected by genocide, *ŠTO TE NEMA* creates an inclusive space allowing us to confront the universal issues surrounding genocide by remembering, mourning, and healing together as a unified community."

Having fled her home country in 1992 due to the threat of systematic violence and persecution, Šehović combines ritual, politics, and social engagement to address her own cultural heritage and history. To mark the anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide, which began on July 11, 1995, Šehović presented *ŠTO TE NEMA* in partnership with Bosnian diaspora communities in various public squares around the world on July 11 every year between 2006 and 2020. In each city, the public was invited to participate in the creation of the monument by placing the collected cups on the ground and filling them with Bosnian coffee prepared on site throughout the day. The coffee remained in the cups in memory of the victims. In 2020, the final iteration of *ŠTO TE NEMA* in its original form took place in the Memorial Center Srebrenica-Potočari.

"We are so pleased to host Aida Šehović's *ŠTO TE NEMA* archive here at Laumeier. Her project is powerful, meaningful, and relevant to our community in St. Louis. Her work addresses a number of big themes, such as remembrance, ritual and community, and more specifically how history and memory are represented in public space," says Dana Turkovic, Curator at Laumeier Sculpture Park.



One of these themes that will be explored is the Bosnian daily ritual of sharing coffee with loved ones, which is an important cultural and familial practice in the region. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, an invitation for a coffee is an invitation for a conversation. Planned public programming at Laumeier will connect to this theme by encouraging participants to take the time needed to make and drink a cup of traditional Bosnian coffee, while coming together to connect with one another.

As Laumeier's 2021 Visiting Artist In Residence, Šehović will make multiple trips to St. Louis to engage with the local Bosnian community around the ideas of collective remembrance, displacement, mourning, and community healing through monuments and public engagement. These visits will allow her to explore issues of importance to this region and shape public programming that will correspond to her exhibition. She will work with Laumeier's 2021 Cultural Thinker In Residence, Bosnian-born community organizer Elvir Mandžukić, to bridge connections and develop productive partnerships within St. Louis.

Šehović's first trip to St. Louis occurred in early April, during which, she met with representatives from the Center for Bosnian Studies at Fontbonne University, Privredna Komora BiH in St Louis, St. Louis Mosaic Project, and Missouri History Museum as well as several leaders of St. Louis' large Bosnian community.

Through a range of discussions and participatory programs, virtually and in person, the collaboration between Šehović and Mandžukić will help further explore the generational shift of consciousness within the Bosnian community in St. Louis and the possibility of future monuments, both static and nomadic.

### **Public Programs**

Multiple public programs—many free of charge—will be presented. The following programs have been confirmed; full list to be announced at a future date.

#### **COFFEE + CONVERSATION (Virtual)**

**Aida Šehović, Elvir Mandžukić and Dana Turkovic**

**Saturday, May 22 at 10 a.m. / FREE**

Learn how to make a cup of Bosnian coffee and enjoy a Q&A style conversation with Laumeier's Visiting Artist in Residence Aida Šehović, Cultural Thinker In Residence Elvir Mandžukić, and Curator Dana Turkovic. RSVP at [www.laumeier.org/conversation-series](http://www.laumeier.org/conversation-series)

#### **CONVERSATION SERIES: GALLERY TALK / Aida Šehović**

**Ages 16 + / Saturday, September 25 / 10 a.m. / FREE**

Join artist Aida Šehović and Laumeier's Curator Dana Turkovic for a discussion about the current exhibition.



**EXHIBITION OPENING / *Aida Šehović: ŠTO TE NEMA***

**Saturday, September 25 / 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. / FREE**

**FAMILY WORKSHOP / Future Memories**

**Ages 4 to 12, accompanied by one adult / Saturday, October 16 / 1–3:30 p.m. / \$55**

Everyone has a story to tell! Your family, friends and heritage play an important role in your identity. Experiment with image transfers, collaging, and adding text in a meaningful way to create an interesting work that honors the memory of a shared family experience.

Depending on current St. Louis COVID-19 guidelines, these programs will be hosted in person or virtually. Visit [laumeier.org](http://laumeier.org) for the most up-to-date information on exhibition-related programming.

**About Laumeier Sculpture Park**

Founded in 1976, Laumeier Sculpture Park is one of the first and largest sculpture parks in the country. Laumeier presents more than 70 works of large-scale outdoor sculpture throughout its 105-acre campus. It serves 300,000 visitors of all ages each year, with a world-class art collection, indoor and outdoor temporary exhibitions, education programs and public events. Laumeier is an internationally recognized museum, accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. The 501(c)3 nonprofit organization operates in partnership with St. Louis County Parks.

Laumeier Sculpture Park's ongoing operations and programs are generously supported by St. Louis County Parks; Regional Arts Commission; Missouri Arts Council; Arts and Education Council; among other corporations, foundations, individual donors and members.

Additional funding related to COVID-19 relief has been provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, the Windgate Foundation, the U.S. Small Business Administration, and the St. Louis County Small Business Relief Program.

2020-21 exhibitions are supported by Ellen and Durb Curlee, Alison and John Ferring, Jan and Ronnie Greenberg, Nancy and Ken Kranzberg, Joan and Mitchell Markow and Two Sister's Foundation, Emily Rauh Pulitzer, Mary Ann and Andy Srenco.

*Aida Šehović: ŠTO TE NEMA* is supported in part by the Windgate Foundation. Additional support for the exhibition and Šehović's residency comes from a grant from the Vilcek Foundation. Established in 2000, the mission of the Vilcek Foundation is to honor and celebrate the contributions of immigrants to the arts, culture, and society in the United States, and to foster appreciation for the arts and sciences.



For more about Laumeier Sculpture Park, please visit [www.laumeier.org](http://www.laumeier.org).

## Images

High-resolution images available upon request.

### **Laumeier exhibition:**



*ŠTO TE NEMA (Spatium Memoriae)*, 2021  
8,372 fildžani cups, steel shelving  
68 x 94 inches  
Courtesy of the artist, New York

### **Archival photos of ŠTO TE NEMA:**



*ŠTO TE NEMA* nomadic monument on July 11, 2017 in Chicago, USA. Photo: Manka Rabiye © Aida Šehović. All rights reserved.



ŠTO TE NEMA nomadic monument on July 11, 2018 in Zurich, Switzerland. Photo: Ismeta Curkic © Aida Šehović. All rights reserved.

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